Course Prerequisite Policy

University Policy #2130

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify expectations regarding course prerequisites for undergraduate and graduate courses. The goal is enhance student success through the establishment and enforcement of course prerequisites that define the skills and content needed for effective learning in a Metropolitan State University course.

Section 2. Authority

This policy is issued pursuant to authority granted under the Rules and Regulations of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU).

Section 3. Effective Date

This policy shall become effective upon signature by the president and shall remain in effect until it is modified or expressly revoked.

Section 4. Responsibility

Responsibility for implementation of this policy is assigned to the Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs.

Section 5. Definitions

Co-requisite refers to a course (or other formal study) required or permitted to be taken simultaneously with another. Prerequisite refers to a course (or other formal study) that must be completed prior to taking another course.
Section 6. Policy

A. Related policies that may apply include:
   • Policy 2020 - Baccalaureate Degree Requirement, Modification of Student Degree Programs and Graduation Requirements
   • Procedure 212 Transfer Credit Procedure
   • Graduate program policies
B. Academic departments may establish prerequisites as appropriate and reasonable to ensure that students have the skills and content necessary to successfully complete a course. Department chairs, in consultation with the department and resident faculty, may also determine whether prerequisites can be waived and establish appropriate procedures for such waivers.

C. Prior to beginning study in a course with prerequisites, students shall complete the established prerequisite(s) or the approved equivalent(s).

D. Metropolitan State University reserves the right to administratively drop a student from a course for which the student has not successfully completed the prerequisite(s) or the approved equivalent(s).

E. Metropolitan State University reserves the right to block a student’s registration for a course for which the student has not successfully completed, or is not currently enrolled in, the prerequisite(s) or the approved equivalent(s).

Section 7. Review

This policy will be reviewed and modified as appropriate.

Section 8. Signatures

Issued on this day, April 13, 2010

[Signatures]

William J. Lowe, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs

Sue K. Hammersmith, President